

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
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STATE FOR CU/EE; USIA FOR IEU, ICS/CA

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TAGS: OEXC, PL

SUBJECT: AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER

REF STATE 223816

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED REFTTEL WITH PROFESSOR FARNHAM WHO SAID THAT HE WAS GIVING SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO REMAINING IN WARSAW FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR AFTER THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR BUT THAT IT WAS TOO SOON FOR HIM TO BE ABLE TO MAKE A FIRM DECISION.

2. WE ALSO HAVE MET SEVERAL TIMES WITH PROFESSOR HEDIN, WHO IS CURRENTLY ATTENDING THE FULBRIGHT ORIENTATION SESSION IN KRAKOW, BUT WE HAVE NOT RAISED THE RENEWAL QUESTION WITH HIM YET. WE WILL NOT DO SO UNTIL HE HAS HAD A FEW WEEKS AT HIS REGULAR ASSIGNMENT IN WARSAW AND HAS AT LEAST A LIMITED BASIS UPON WHICH TO MAKE SUCH A DECISION.

3. PROFESSOR FARNHAM SAID THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE RECRUITMENT/RENEWAL QUESTION AT SOME LENGTH WITH DEAN GEORGE WILSON AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR POLAND. DEAN WILSON INDICATED AT THAT TIME, ACCORDING TO PROFESSOR FARNHAM, THAT HE WOULD BEGIN ACTIVE RECRUITMENT FOR THESE POSITIONS IN DECEMBER OF THIS YEAR. PROFESSOR FARNHAM SAID THAT HE EXPECTED THAT BOTH HE AND PROFESSOR HEDIN WOULD BE

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ABLE TO MAKE A FIRM DECISION CONCERNING THEIR POSSIBLE

RENEWALS BY DECEMBER 1.

4. PROFESSOR FARNHAM SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN GIVEN A VERY WARM GREETING UPON HIS RETURN TO WARSAW BY WARSAW UNIVERSITY COLLEAGUES. HE WAS MET AT THE AIRPORT BY DIRECTOR SAMSONOWICZ OF THE INSTITUTE OF HISTORY AND BY PROFESSOR PIEKARCZYK AND BARTNICKI, FORMER ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY/WARSAW UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE GRANTEES. PROFESSOR FARNHAM HAS BEEN SHOWN SEVERAL APARTMENTS AND IS IN THE PROCESS OF CHOOSING AMONG THEM. PROFESSOR HEDIN AND HIS FAMILY HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED A THREE-ROOM FURNISHED APARTMENT, WHICH THEY HAVE SEEN AND LIKE.

5. PROFESSOR FARNHAM MET EARLIER THIS WEEK WITH RECTOR RYBICKI, VICE RECTOR RODEWALD, DEAN OLGIERD WOJTASIEWICZ, AND PROFESSOR ANDRZEJ BARTNICKI, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE OF HISTORY, WHO SPENT LAST YEAR AT ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, IN AN INITIAL WELCOMING SESSION IN RECTOR RYBICKI'S OFFICE. PROFESSOR FARNHAM SAYS THAT RECTOR RYBICKI EXPRESSED ENTHUSIASM AT THE PROSPECT OF ESTABLISHING THE ASC FORMALLY IN 1976 BUT STRESSED THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ASC WOULD HAVE TO BE DIRECTED INTERNALLY TO THE WARSAW UNIVERSITY CAMPUS. RYBICKI WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HOPED THAT THE ASC WOULD DEVELOP ALONG THE LINES OF THE FRENCH CULTURAL CENTER AT WARSAW UNIVERSITY. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT POLISH/FRENCH RELATIONS WERE CONSIDERABLY DIFFERENT FROM POLISH/AMERICAN RELATIONS AND THAT THE ASC, THEREFORE, WOULD HAVE TO MAINTAIN A LOW PROFILE INITIALLY OUTSIDE OF POLAND AND TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN POLAND.

6. RECTOR RYBICKI SAID THAT THE ASC WOULD OPERATE UNDER THE GENERAL SUPERVISION OF THE DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES, PROFESSOR OLGIERD WOJTASIEWICZ, AND UNDER THE IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION OF ANOTHER POLISH SCHOLAR, SUCH AS PROFESSOR BARTNICKI, WHO WOULD SERVE AS THE POLISH DIRECTOR OF THE ASC. RECTOR RYBICKI SAID THAT HE HOPED THAT PROFESSOR BARTNICKI WOULD BE WILLING TO RESIGN FROM HIS CURRENT POSITION AS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE OF HISTORY TO TAKE UP A FULL-TIME ASSIGNMENT AS DIRECTOR OF THE ASC. PROFESSOR BARTNICKI WAS NOT AWARE THAT THE RECTOR WAS PLANNING TO OFFER HIM THIS POSITION AND INDICATED THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CON-

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SIDER SUCH A PROPOSITION BEFORE GIVING UP HIS PRESENT APPOINTMENT.

7. RECTOR RYBICKI WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE WOULD BE CALLING MEETINGS FROM TIME TO TIME DURING THE COMING YEAR TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS NECESSARY FOR THE FORMAL OPENING OF THE ASC. ONCE AGAIN HE EMPHASIZED THE NECESSITY FOR RECIPROCITY, BUT HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT RECIPROCITY WOULD REQUIRE DOLLAR

EXPENDITURES BY THE POLES IN THE U.S.

8. PROFESSOR FARNHAM SAYS THAT HE GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT RECTOR RYBICKI WAS THOROUGHLY COMMITTED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ASC, BUT THAT THIS WAS A VERY DELICATE POLITICAL ISSUE FOR THE UNIVERSITY AND THAT THE RECTOR WOULD, THEREFORE, PROCEED WITH GREAT CAUTION. PROFESSOR FARNHAM SAYS THAT THIS CONCERN IS PROBABLY THE REASON FOR WARSAW UNIVERSITY'S INSISTENCE UPON HAVING A POLISH DIRECTOR FOR THE ASC.

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9. IN A LATER MEETING WITH PROFESSOR FARNHAM, PROFESSOR BARTNICKI EXPRESSED HIS SURPRISE AT THE RECTOR'S SUGGESTION THAT HE BECOME THE ASC DIRECTOR. BARTNICKI HAS NOW MET AGAIN WITH THE RECTOR AND IT APPEARS THAT HE WILL TAKE THE POSITION AS ASC DIRECTOR AND AT THE SAME TIME MAINTAIN A LOOSE CONNECTION WITH THE INSTITUTE OF HISTORY.

10. PROFESSOR FARNHAM SAYS THAT HE AND HEDIN HAVE BEEN GIVEN OFFICE SPACE AT THE UNIVERSITY. SPACE FOR THE ASC LIBRARY ALSO HAS BEEN RESERVED IN ADJOINING ROOMS. THE SPACE SET ASIDE IS FULLY FURNISHED AND HAS TELEPHONE SERVICE. IT APPEARS THAT THE POLISH STAFF MEMBERS WILL NOT BE ASSIGNED TO THE ASC UNTIL THE POLISH DIRECTOR HAS BEEN DESIGNATED. PROFESSORS FARNHAM AND HEDIN WILL BEGIN THEIR COURSE WORK IN THE INSTITUTES OF HISTORY AND ENGLISH PHILOLOGY RESPECTIVELY AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR SHORTLY

AFTER OCTOBER 1.

COMMENT: WE ARE PLEASED WITH THE PROGRESS MADE THUS FAR. RECTOR RYBICKI HAS FIRMLY TAKEN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASC. THE HOUSING PROBLEMS FOR BOTH THE ASC AND FOR PROFESSORS FARNHAM AND HEDIN HAVE BEEN SOLVED. RECTOR RYBICKI IS MOVING AHEAD WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF THE POLISH ASC DIRECTOR. PROFESSOR FARNHAM IS PLEASED WITH THE CHOICE OF PROFESSOR BARTNICKI AS DIRECTOR. FARNHAM AND BARTNICKI ARE WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACQUAINTED, HAVING WORKED TOGETHER AT WARSAW UNIVERSITY FOR TWO YEARS WHILE FARNHAM WAS A FULBRIGHT PROFESSOR THERE AND FROM THEIR ASSOCIATION AT ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY WHERE BARTNICKI SERVED LAST YEAR AS A POLISH FULBRIGH PROFESSOR GRANTEE. FARNHAM BELIEVES THAT BARTNICKI WILL ASSUME AN ACTIVE ROLE IN ASC PROGRAMS AND IN DEVELOPING THE ASC AS A LIVELY CENTER OF ACADEMIC ACTIVITY AT WARSAW UNIVERSITY. BARTNICKI IS A FORMER PARTY FIRST SECRETARY OF THE PZPR AT WARSAW UNIVERSITY. HIS BIO-DATA FOLLOW BY SEPTEL.

11. WE WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT RECTOR RYBICKI ONCE AGAIN HAS STRESSED THE NEED FOR DISCRETION AND CAUTION IN TALKING ABOUT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASC ON THE WARSAW UNIVERSITY CAMPUS. THE RECTOR IS OBVIOUSLY MOST CONCERNED ABOUT THIS, AND WE WOULD ADVISE THAT BOTH THE DEPARTMENT AND THE AGENCY USE EXTREME CAUTION IN COMMUNICATIONS OF ALL KINDS TO OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN EMBASSIES CONCERNING THE ASC. WORD OF THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASC WILL SOON GET OUT IN SURROUNDING COUNTRIES, BUT WE HOPE THAT THIS NEWS DOES NOT ORIGINATE FROM AN OFFICIAL AMERICAN SOURCE. DAVIES

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